

across the United States, Commander Chapman insists that aiding and protecting our veterans should always be one of our top priorities.

Mr. Speaker, Commander Harold Chapman's dedication to public service and commitment to helping our nation's veterans must be commemorated. Commander Chapman has always put his country before himself, and it is both an honor and privilege to serve as his Representative in Congress.

IN HONOR OF MAJOR GENERAL
ROBERT D. CARLSON

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK
OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 17, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Major General Robert D. Carlson, who departed from his role as Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Transatlantic Division, on July 14, 2017. Major General Carlson has dedicated his life to keeping this nation safe, and I am grateful for not only his outstanding service to our great nation, but also to the citizens of Virginia's 10th Congressional District in his capacity as commander of the Transatlantic Division, located in Winchester, Virginia.

At a young age, Major General Carlson chose to pursue a career of service in defense of the freedoms that we cherish. This led him to attend the United States Military Academy where he earned a Bachelor of Science in general engineering. Upon graduation, Major General Carlson was commissioned into the Engineer Regiment and later received a Master of Science in engineering management from the University of Missouri and a Master of Arts in strategic studies from the United States Army War College (USAWC) at Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Throughout his distinguished career, Major General Carlson has served in numerous command and staff positions from company-to division-level units. Before assuming his current position, some of Major General Carlson's assignments include commanding the 372nd Engineer Brigade and the Contingency Response Unit, 416th Theater Engineer Command, and serving as the Chief of Staff, U.S. Agency for International Development. The colossal amount of prestigious awards and decorations that he has attained are illustrative manifestations of his heroic service and devotion to this nation. These honors, among others, include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Department of State Meritorious Honor Award, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with Bronze Service Star, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Service Star, Global War on Terror Service Medal, NATO-SFOR (Balkans) Medal, NATO-ISAF (Afghanistan) Medal, Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, and the Engineer Regiment Bronze DeFleury Medal.

Under his esteemed leadership as commander of the Transatlantic Division, he oversaw both the USACE Contingency Construction Program and the Associated Foreign

Military Sales Construction Programs, which provided vital facilities for U.S. Forces and our allies throughout the Middle East. Additionally, Major General Carlson has also been a proponent of increasing awareness of and expanding opportunities for today's youth in the Science, Engineering and Technical career fields and has been involved in STEM-related events, such as National Engineer Week and TAM-sponsored STEM events in the Winchester area.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire 10th District, I would like to express my gratitude to Major General Carlson for his dedicated career of service, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing such a truly commendable figure. I wish him and his wife, Valerie, and their three children, Cody, Chad, and Camie, all the best as he moves on to his next assignment.

IN HONOR OF CONSUL GENERAL
DR. ANDY DAVID

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 17, 2017

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the efforts of Dr. Andy David, Israel's Consul General to the Pacific Northwest, who has worked tirelessly to deepen the ties between our two nations, as he completes his tour of duty at the Consulate General of Israel in San Francisco.

Dr. Andy David began his appointment as Consul General in August 2012. He has focused his work on relationship building with essential organizations such as the American Jewish Committee and promoting the special relationship between Israel and the U.S.

Throughout his career in public service, Dr. David has focused his work to advance U.S.-Israeli relations in the areas of economic development, business ties and trade opportunities.

Dr. David helped launch a cultural exchange with Israeli artists and the City of San Francisco, developing a strong exchange program with San Francisco-based artists and their Israeli counterparts.

Under Andy's guidance, the University of California system signed a new cooperation agreement with Israel designed to foster technological innovation, research, and development. This collaboration is aimed at helping American and Israeli companies increase competitiveness and improve the commercial success of both countries in global markets.

In 2014, after a series of anti-Israel rallies cropped up throughout San Francisco, Dr. David and fellow pro-Israel supporters organized a rally to show solidarity for continued U.S. support of Israel and increase morale for Israeli soldiers fighting against terrorist groups in Gaza.

Today, a strong U.S.-Israeli relationship is more important than ever. Without the selfless dedication of public servants like Dr. David, the peace and security of both nations would suffer.

The United States knows no greater friend than Israel, and Dr. David has done an extraordinary job of fostering an understanding among Americans of the importance of Israel to the security of the United States. I hope the

accomplishments made by Dr. David will inspire a future generation of public servants to deepen the ties between our countries.

Mr. Speaker, the partnership between the United States and Israel will continue to reap Dr. Andy David's contributions for years to come, and I rise to express my profound gratitude for his tremendous service.

RECOGNIZING MASTER SERGEANT
STANLEY W. TALBOT AND THE
RENAMING OF CENTENNIAL
BRIDGE

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 17, 2017

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the renaming of the Centennial Bridge in Rock Island to the Stanley Talbot Memorial Bridge in honor of Master Sergeant Stanley W. Talbot. After serving our community for decades—and after being taken from us far too soon—it is fitting that we honor Master Sgt. Talbot and his family for his dedication, selflessness and public service.

Every day we rely on men and women in uniform to protect our families, as they bravely risk their lives for our safety. We must never forget that these men and women are mothers, fathers, sons, daughters and friends. As the wife of a Sheriff, I sympathize with the family, friends and colleagues of Master Sgt. Talbot. He was a beloved member of the community and his 26 year service to the Illinois State Police deserves to be honored in a public and lasting way.

Memorials and dedications like these help us to remember his sacrifice and the brave sacrifices of those that come after him. Once again, I want to honor Master Sgt. Talbot, and support law enforcement within our community.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF MRS. ANITA JOHNSON TO
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 17, 2017

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Financial Services Committee, its Chairman, Mr. HENSARLING, and the U.S. House of Representatives, as I pay tribute to one of the hardest working and dedicated employees this House has ever known.

Mr. Speaker, for over 30 years Anita L. Johnson has served this chamber with distinction, undeniable integrity, humility, kindness, grace, and skill. For the past several years, she has worked ably and diligently as the Chief Administrative Officer for the Democratic Staff of the Financial Services Committee.

Mrs. Johnson began her career on Capitol Hill in 1982 as the Office Manager and Personal Assistant to then-Congressman Harold Ford, Sr. In 1986 she became Office Manager and Personal Assistant to Congressman SANDY LEVIN.

Although her husband's transfer relocated Mrs. Johnson away from Capitol Hill and back to her home town of Memphis, Tennessee, for three years, she returned to the Hill in 1989. For the next decade, she served as Executive Assistant and Clerk for the Education and Labor Committee Democrats. In 1999, she became the Chief Administrative Officer and Clerk for Democrats on the Judiciary Committee—a position she held for twelve years.

In 2013, Mrs. Johnson joined the Financial Services Committee and has remained the Chief Administrative Officer and Clerk until her retirement today.

From my time on the Judiciary Committee and as Ranking Member of the Financial Services Committee I have personally come to know Anita Johnson. She is a tireless and relentless worker, an excellent multi-tasker, doing whatever it takes to accomplish tasks both large and small. When everyone else is stressed because of the pressure, she remains calm.

She is a true professional, whose expertise, integrity, dedication and commitment have served as an example to her peers and colleagues. Her willingness to go the extra mile, her insights and opinions have been extremely valuable to the successful undertakings of each office she has served—especially my own.

She has flawlessly maintained budgets totaling millions of dollars, ensured the smooth running of each office in which she worked; skillfully clerked dozens of markups, and provided valuable assistance to myself, other Members, and staff.

Prior to her time on the Hill, Mrs. Johnson was an educator teaching at Wooddale Senior High School (Memphis, TN); Hazelwood Senior High School (St. Louis, MO); Ivanna Eudora Kean High School (St. Thomas, USVI); and, Savannah Area Vocational Technical School (Savannah, GA). Additionally, Anita has been a member of the Washington Performing Arts Society Men and Women of the Gospel for years; and, has performed at the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall; TNT's "Christmas in Washington"; and, the Kennedy Center Honors. With the Trinity Choir at Alfred Street Baptist Church, Alexandria, Virginia, Anita has also performed in Austria, Italy, Germany, Paris, Brussels, and Amsterdam.

On behalf of the Financial Services Committee, its staff, and this distinguished body, we would like to thank Anita for her commitment to the U.S. House of Representatives and her exemplary service to this nation. Her humility, integrity, generosity, loyalty, sense of humor and professionalism will be sorely missed. She has served as a cherished colleague, mentor and friend to many present and former Hill staff members. We wish her the best of luck and extend to her our deepest gratitude as she leaves Capitol Hill.

ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT
JUSTICE RITA B. GARMAN

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2017

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Illinois Supreme Court Justice Rita B. Garman for her exemplary work on the court for the past 16 years.

In acknowledgement of Justice Garman's service, the Vermilion County Board voted to rename the county courthouse "The Rita B. Garman Vermilion County Courthouse." A ceremony dedicating the renamed courthouse will be held on August 4th.

Justice Garman is a 1965 University of Illinois graduate and a 1968 graduate of the University of Iowa College of Law. She began her judicial career at the Vermilion County Courthouse as an associate judge.

She served dutifully and responsibly as a judge in the Fifth Judicial Circuit Court from 1986 to 1995. After that, her dedication and perseverance led her to become an Illinois State Appellate Court Justice. In February 2001 she was appointed to the Illinois Supreme Court, and she went on to serve as Chief Justice from 2013 to 2016. She continues to serve the people of Illinois as a member of the Supreme Court.

I have come to know Justice Garman over the last few years and applaud her for many years of dedication to upholding the law and pursuing justice. I want to personally congratulate her for this recognition by Vermilion County as they rename the courthouse The Rita B. Garman Vermilion County Courthouse.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2017

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2810) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chair, I will vote against H.R. 2810, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2018 (Roll no. 378). I commend the House Armed Services Committee for tackling some difficult issues, but I remain concerned about several components of the bill, including its lack of fiscal discipline and use of budget gimmicks.

There are provisions of this legislation that I support. I am pleased this bill includes a provision expressing the sense of Congress that climate change is a direct threat to the national security of the United States. The bill would also support a 2.4 percent military pay raise and would require the Pentagon to report to Congress any attempts by Russian actors to hack the Defense Department's system.

However, by authorizing a total of \$621.5 billion in base budget authority, exceeding the \$549 billion cap set in the 2011 Budget Control Act, and using \$10 billion in Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funding for base defense requirements, Congress and the administration are misusing budget mechanisms to pad their accounts in an era of fiscal uncertainty. The bill puts off making tough decisions about our defense spending.

The legislation also keeps intact funding for several unnecessary weapons programs and undermines key international nuclear non-proliferation efforts. The bill authorizes full

funding for the Air Force's next generation air-launched cruise missile, known as the Long-Range Standoff weapon (LRSO), even though Secretary of Defense Mattis has stated numerous times that he is skeptical we actually need it. I offered an amendment to keep funding for the LRSO at FY17 levels until the administration submits a Nuclear Posture Review to Congress, but it was unfortunately not accepted.

The bill also requires the Department of Defense to develop a missile system that, if tested or deployed, would violate U.S. obligations under the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty. I offered an amendment to prohibit this system's development until military experts, diplomats and our NATO allies certify that they agree with this approach, but this amendment too was rejected.

Additionally, the legislation caps funding for nuclear weapon dismantlement at \$56 million for FY19 through FY21, making us less safe.

Beyond nuclear weapons and treaties, the legislation maintains a prohibition on transferring detainees in Guantanamo Bay detention facility to the United States and bars the construction or modification of facilities within the U.S. to house detainees for another year. It's past time that we closed this military prison. We can safely and securely imprison anyone we need to without the extraordinary expense of this recruiting tool for ISIS.

The bill also prohibits a new round of base realignment and closure (BRAC), rejecting the Department of Defense's request for flexibility to implement BRAC for the sixth year in a row.

The best way to support our troops is to fight for common-sense budgeting and spending these sums out properly.

IN RECOGNITION OF NANCY HUBBARD FOR HER LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO THE DEARBORN COMMUNITY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Nancy Hubbard for her service and dedication to the City of Dearborn. As one of the city's longest serving City Council members, Ms. Hubbard was a tireless public servant who left a legacy of achievement and will be missed.

Ms. Hubbard began her career as a secretary with Ford Motor Company and later worked for the Dearborn Department of Public Works and Dearborn Department of Building and Safety. She was elected to the Dearborn City Council in 1990 and compiled a distinguished record of success during her 24 years on the council. Ms. Hubbard has spent 16 years serving as the Council President Pro Tem, where she used the leadership position to advocate on behalf of the city's residents. She played a key role in the establishment of the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center and in expanding the greenway trail system in the city. She was also involved in economic development initiatives, including the establishment of the Dearborn Town Center and the redevelopment of the Warren Avenue and Dix-Vernor business corridors. As a result of her work, Dearborn has been transformed